at least one layer comprising a resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and

a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one layer including a resilient elastomeric component.

A1

3. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the at least one material comprises a wire, thread, or filament.

---

7. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.

8. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.

9. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second layers of the encapsulating shell.

A2

10. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, comprising the following layers:

a fluid-filled center;.

an encapsulating shell comprising at least one layer to contain the fluid;

at least one layer comprising a first resilient elastomeric component;

a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one material with a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater disposed about [or within] the at least one layer of the first resilient elastomeric component;

at least one layer comprising a second resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and

a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one layer including a second resilient elastomeric component.

---

17. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 10, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.

18. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 13, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.

A3

19. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 10, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second layers comprising the first resilient elastomeric component.

Cancel 20. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 1 comprising:

at least one core layer comprising a first resilient elastomeric component;

a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one fibrous material with a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater wound about the at least one core layer;

at least one intermediate layer comprising a second resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and

a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one intermediate layer.

28. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 20, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.

A4

29. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 13, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.

30. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 20, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second core layers.

31. (Amended) A golf ball having four or more layers comprising:

a center;

a cover comprising at least one layer; and

a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one strand with a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater, wherein the strand has a first cross-sectional area and the strand is coated with a binding material prior to winding to provide a coated strand with a second cross-sectional area greater than the first by about 5 percent or more.

34. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the center has a diameter from about 0.5 inch to about 1.55 inches.

A5

35. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 34, wherein the center has a diameter from about 1.1 inches to about 1.5 inches.

37. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the second cross-sectional area is about 10 percent larger than the first cross-sectional area.

A6

38. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the strand is continuous [strand having] and has a diameter from about 0.004 to about 0.02 inches.

Please add the following new claims:

42. (New) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the binding material is activated after winding.

A7

43. (New) A golf ball comprising:

a core;

a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one strand having a first cross-sectional area;

a binding material applied to the at least one strand to increase the first cross-sectional area by about 5 percent or greater; and

a cover.

44. (New) The golf ball of claim 42, wherein the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater.

A7

45. (New) The golf ball of claim 42, wherein the binding material is activated to further increase the first cross-sectional area.

46. (New) The golf ball of claim 45, wherein the binding material is activated after winding.